AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend ¶ **[0021]** of the specification as follows.

[0021] The preferred embodiments of the present invention describe the preparation and application of low impurity fibers in cementitious fiber reinforced composite materials. These embodiments encompass not only the method of removing COD components from fibers, but also the formulation and the methods of manufacture of fiber reinforced composite materials formed from low COD and high purity fibers, as well as the properties of the final products. The treatment to remove impurities from pulps can also be implemented in conjunction with other fiber treatments. Further details on related chemical treatments of fibers are found in Applicant's copending applications entitled FIBER CEMENT COMPOSITE MATERIALS USING SIZED CELLULOSE FIBERS (Attorney Docket No. HARD1.017A), Ser. No. 09/969,742, filed on the same date as the present application, now U.S. Patent No. 6,676,745; FIBER CEMENT COMPOSITE MATERIALS USING BIOCIDE TREATED DURABLE CELLULOSE FIBERS (Attorney Docket No. HARD1.016A), Ser. No. 09/969,964, filed on the same date as the present application, now U.S. Patent No. 6,777,103; and FIBER CEMENT COMPOSITE MATERIALS USING CELLULOSE FIBERS LOADED WITH INORGANIC AND/OR ORGANIC SUBSTANCES (Attorney Docket No. HARD1.009A), Ser. No. 09/969,957, filed on the same date as the present application, now U.S. Patent No. 6,676,744, the entirety of each of these applications being hereby incorporated by reference. It will be appreciated that the aspects of the present invention are not applicable solely to cellulose fiber reinforced cementitious products, and accordingly, the techniques described herein may be applied to building materials reinforced with other fibers in non-cement products as well.